Bids by Malaysian company for Kawas and Gandhar projects

2270. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Malaysian firm was identified by NTPC as the second lowest bidder for gas supply for the expansion of its Gandhar and Kawas projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of its bid price and how it compares with the International price of gas then and now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Petronas, Malaysia was the second lowest bidder for gas supply for the expansion of NTPC Gandhar and Kawas projects. They participated for supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) on Cost Insurance Freight (CIF) basis.

The bid price of Petronas, Malaysia was $ 3.63 per Million Metric British Thermal Unit (MMBtu) (without taxes and duties) for supply of LNG on CIF basis.

Generally, the prices of LNG under specific long term contracts are kept confidential and not available in the public domain. However, according to BP statistical review of World Energy (June '2008), the average prices of LNG for Japan in the years 2004 and 2007 were $ 5.18 per MMBtu and $ 7.73 per MMBtu respectively.

Incentives for Kerala under APDRP

2271. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had recommended the incentives for Kerala under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) scheme for the period 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the amount sanctioned as on date, category-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Kerala Government had represented for the same during December, 2006 and May, 2007;

(d) if so, the action taken in detail; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) The State of Kerala had submitted the proposals for release of incentive for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 under incentive component of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP). After scrutinizing the proposals, the incentive claim for the year 2002-03 was

estimated to be of Rs. 64.94 crore, which has been released. Since the net losses were not found to be reduced for the year 2003-04 as compared to year 2002-03, Kerala was not eligible for incentive for the year 2003-04. Regarding the incentive claim for the year 2004-05, the eligible incentive of Rs. 82.99 crore has also been released by the Government of India to Kerala. Proposals for release of incentive claims received upto 31.03.2007 were considered under the scheme. As the proposals for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 were received in January 2008 only, these were not considered.

Development of areas near NTPC units

*2272. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC-a PSU, is not spending required amount for the development of rural areas near its plants;

(b) whether Government is also aware that this results in tension in nearby villages and people resort to agitation at some places;

(c) if so, the measures taken by Government for its prevention; and

(d) the amount spent by NTPC in this regard so far and the future plan it has in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) NTPC is taking up activities related to development of rural areas near its plants based on specific needs and requirements of particular location emerging by assessment of needs through Need Assessment Surveys, in consultation with local community and the local administration and plans to continue to do so in future also.

During the year 2007-08, NTPC spent Rs. 15.53 crores against various community development and welfare measures. Total expenditure during last 3 years was 41.6 crores.

Ministry of Power reviews the corporate social responsibility activities of NTPC during the Quarterly Performance Review (QPR) meetings.

Electricity losses

†2273. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that average power loss at national level is estimated to be upto 33 per cent;

(b) if not, the facts thereof and the amount being spent currently on generation of this quantum of power;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.